

[23 November, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have assessed the reasons for this low return; and
- (d) if so, what are the remedial steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Setting up of a NFMB

118. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of recommendations made by TRAI on the 3-G Spectrum;
- (b) whether there is any move in this Ministry to formulate a comprehensive policy so that 3-G services could be rolled out speedy wireless communications;
- (c) whether it is also true that TRAI has recommended for setting up of a National Frequency Management Board to sort out spectrum usage and allocation issues; and
- (d) if so, the action that has been contemplated for proposed to by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) The main recommendations made by TRAI on the 3-G spectrum are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Committee has been set up to examine the TRAI Recommendations, including setting up of a National Frequency Management Board (NFMB).

Statement

The main recommendations made by TRAI on the 3-G spectrum:

- * Spectrum identified for 3-G should be treated as a stand alone allocation and not as an extension of earlier spectrum allocation of 2-G;
- * The DOT (Government) should realized a spectrum acquisition fee from telecom service providers;
- * Following spectrum has been identified for 3-G services;
 - * 2 X 25 MHz in 2.1 GHz band (5 blocks of 2 X 5 MHz);
 - * 2 X 2.5 MHz in 800 MHz band (2 blocks of 2 X 1.25 MHz); and
 - * 2 X 5 MHz in 450 MHz band (Single blocks of 2 X 5 MHz).
- * Rural roll out obligations have been recommended as part of overall roll out obligations in a time bound manner;
- * Base price for acquisition of spectrum for 3-G has been recommended as Rs. 80 Crore for Delhi, Mumbai and category 'A' circles/areas; Rs. 40 Crore for Chennai, Kolkata and category 'B' circles/areas; and Rs. 15 Crore for category 'C' circles/areas;
- * Stiff penalty for hoarding (of spectrum) and non-compliance of roll out obligations;
- * The Organisation of Spectrum management needs to be strengthened.

Opening of new post offices in Andhra Pradesh

119. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received representation to open new post offices at various locations in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of new post offices set up in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years;